

#3/IDS w/reb  
5/1/02  
a.d.

10978 U.S. PTO  
1010/07/639  
02/15/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: SHIRAKAWA et al.

FILED: February 15, 2002

FOR: OPTICAL DISK DEVICE

DOCKET: NEC 01FN073

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents & Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRIOR ART DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicant hereby attaches U.S. Patent Office Form PTO-1449, including copies of the references listed therein. The references are discussed in the specification. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over these references.

This information disclosure statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitutes prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Norman P. Soloway  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 24,315

HAYES SOLOWAY P.C.  
130 W. CUSHING STREET  
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701

TEL. 520.882.7623  
FAX 520.882.7643

1C978 U.S. PRO  
10/077639  
02/15/02

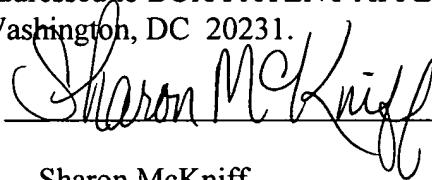


**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

"Express Mail" Mailing Label No. ET956807027US  
Date of Deposit February 15, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper and the papers listed thereon are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Signature of Person Mailing



Name of Person Mailing Sharon McKniff

HAYES SOLOWAY P.C.  
130 W. CUSHING STREET  
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701

TEL. 520.882.7623  
FAX 520.882.7643

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
*(Use several sheets if necessary)*

Docket Number (Optional) **NEC 01EN073**

**Application Number**

**Applicant(s)**

Filing Date	Group Art Unit February 15, 2002
-------------	-------------------------------------

10/07/76 39 PTC

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	JP 2000-20993	01/21/2000	JAPAN				
	JP 2000-020999	01/21/2000	JAPAN				
	JP 2000-011402	01/14/2000	JAPAN				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (*Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.*)


**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.